

PROFITABLE AND
necessarie Discourse, for the mee-
ting with the bad Garbelling of
Spices, vsed in these daies.

And against the Combination of the
workemen of that office, contrarie
vnto common good.

Composed by diuers Grocers of Lon-
don, wherein are handled such principall
matters, as followeth in the 12.

Articles, before the booke.



Printed at London, by R. B. for Thomas
Marr, dwelling in Paternoster Row
at the signe of the
Talbot.

1591.

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Printed at London by R. B. for Thomas
New, dwelling in Little Britain
at the signe of the
Tallbot.

To the Right Honourable Sir
William Webber Knight, Lord Mayor of Lon-
don, and to the right Worshipfull the
Aldermen of the same Citie
his brethren,

BEcause the complaints of
sundrye of the retayling
grocers of Londō, to the
cheefe officers, the gast-
clerks, and to the first meate
of that society, against the fact of bad gar-
belling of spices, betwene them and the
Marchantes, hath in lieu of reformation
taught manye indignities and wrought
some indignation towards the cōplainers.
Therefore no counsell was better (than
despaire of remedie amongst them, could
then conceite or bring forth) then to thinke
to yunte the godly visitatione of such
helps therein, as do beate an answer in
proportion correspondente to the mischiefs
and diseases in the fact of gabbling. Or if
that shoulde followe the fairing of the
Porte Massene, the which in that seruise
it is good sometime to sound the open street
the which work which men do thinke to hide.

meaning that by publishing of some small
 pamphlet touching the same, such good
 maye ensue, either the workmanne to
 grow better, or the buyer to be more wile
 in the office of garbling (a matter right
 honorable and worshipfull, full of rash-
 nesse to breake open a discourse, wherein
 as a man may more easilie erre then find
 the waye to an arguement. But that an
 author should poverly write, is not kept by
 our wisdom, to redresse these defects, is as
 you see fully in them which are the alie
 shone of them, we mean in the Garbling
 and workmanne. Our writs such (which
 ought to be good both in counsel and discre-
 tion) to allowe and adunne this final crea-
 tion under your Honor's favor and protec-
 tion, the effect wherof is to give the rea-
 bles doctores in that office, with the right
 wis and motion thereof, whether in your wis-
 domes and Honor may be pleased to ex-
 cuse our bolding so in this defense, that
 in great neede we needes of great Officers
 have not despised the maner of voices.
 Then shall our duties to the common welth
 be out of daunger, and the same will tra-
 ges

To the discreet and vertuous

Readers: move move yd bog
yd yd bog nommo3 thar mada 12001



N. discounting with diuers won
shipfull Marchants of the com-
paine of Grocers and others, vpon
the practises in yarbelling
of spices in London, a thing a
to the retaylers of such spices of no small im-
portance: aswell for that thereby they are pou-
ched in honor and honestie, being inforced as
it were to put to vicerance corrupt spices, as in
conscience & care to haue reformation for such
constrains: We speake our minds therein; not
of things doone this day, yesterny, or the daie
before: but of things doone long since by expe-
rience, and of the obseruation of the said prac-
tises, and of the corruption therein daily vsed,
& of the reformatio now requited (the which
many yeeres more then some scores past was
conceiued and foreseen.) Therefore to burie the
hatred growne, both betweene the seller and
the buier, we proposed a possible means to pro-
fit the marchant, satisfie al the retaylers, and
to assure the buier and occupier of the goodnes
of such spices without fraud. The meanes are
grounded vpon the true knowledge of the na-
ture

cure of garbelling of spices, the which is not
 only the true sifting of the same, but the deu-
 ding of the good from the bad, and the putting
 of them vp in their said deuisions, and vpon
 the due vnderstanding of the difference of gar-
 bellings vsed in time past, with the time present.
 And in that difference a iust chaise is to bee
 made, and an ordinance to be giuen, for the
 Carbetter to follow, for the benefit of all, the
 which our intent and meaning is, with the con-
 sent of all, and in fauour of thee gentle Rea-
 der to publish to the end, the practises of gar-
 bellings may be garbelled (we meane reformed)
 and our Maiestie and people of this realme bee
 better serued in such affaires. For whose sa-
 tisfaction, we labour with hope, craving of thee
 the like vnterance of friendship towards vs,
 and to accept our meaning, if thou finde not
 this discourse to be quallited to thy liking.

Com. to the Reader of the Acte of the
 l. of the North. Vale.

The Office of the
 1587

- 630
- 1 Why the Art of garbelling was first brought
into England, and by whom first brought in.
 - 2 The quondam deuisions of prices yeld in London.
 - 3 The abuses now vsed in the said Art there.
 - 4 How the danger of those abuses, extendeth
as well to the retailers Grocers, as to the mar-
chant, and thereby the garbeller in danger of
question of his oath taken therein.
 - 5 The abuses of the workmen, and the necessity
of reformation thereof, and for whose sake
it is to be done.
 - 6 Who may reforme these abuses in London,
and the manner how to reforme them.
 - 7 The manner of true garbelling.
 - 8 The rate set and allowed by the maiestie,
for the garbeller to receive in his office.
 - 9 The rate by himselfe advanced, and recei-
ued.
 - 10 The orders necessarie to bee made and kept,
betweene the chiefe garbeller, and his work-
men.
 - 11 The brieife abstracte of the Actes of Com-
mon Councell, made in London for garbel-
ling, in Anno xviii. of king Henry the eight,
and in Anno. second of king Edward the sixt
fol. 63.
 - 12 The othe thereupon appointed, for the said
Garbeller. fol. 87



Reformation for

Garbelling.

- 1 Heerein is shewed that king Henry the sixe did first giue the office of Garbelling of spices in London, to the Maior and Cominaltie of the same.
- 2 That the Marchants and Retailors Grocers, did denise the lawes home the same should be garbelled for ever.
- 3 What Garbelling is.

Chap. I.



F the care which the Antient Romanes hadde, to performe the iudgement and decrees of their law-makers be well weighed and obserued : amongst the rest of great respect and honor, the obellience of Fabius Maximus to the ordinances of his sonne, is to be admired : who beeing a Maiestrate and in place of iudgement, and seeing his father a faire off comming towards him on hotsse backe (a thing forbidden amongst the

B

Ro-

Romans) he commanded his father to set foote on ground, the which the father obeyed, and embracing his sonne, made greater account of him, then if he had doone otherwise. And on the other side, one *Vestinus* was put to death because he arose not when the *Tribune* of the people passed before him, the which he with obedience and patience endured. And diuers Citizens of *Rome* were disfranchised for breathing and yawning a little to lowd, in the presence of the *Censors*: wherat they nothing repined. This we set foorth, for that it should be remembred, that if the common breach of lawes & decrees be permitted, then ensueth not onelie the contempt of the Maiestrate, but also the very ruine of that, for whose cause such ordinances were aduanced: a thinge befallen to the subiect of this matter now in hand, namelie in the fact of Garbelling of spices. The necessitie of clensing and purifeng whereof, in the time of the raigne of king Henry the sixt was then debated, and the office of Garbelling was by the same kinge giuen to the Lord Maior & Cominaltie of this famous Citie of London, but in such wise, notwithstanding, that it is verie apparant, that as well the Marchantes owners of such spices, as the Grocers retaylors of the same Cittie, were called to giue aduice for the conceiuing & creating of such ordinances therein, as might best tend to the benefit of the Marchant, the vterance and sale of the Grocer, and the goodnes of

The office of Garbelling was by K. Henrie the vi. firste giuen to the Lorde maior and comminalty of london.

of the thing garbelled for the health of the people of this realme: vpon the which ordinances the Art of garbelling was pronouncd to consist, it being an habite of working according to right, reason, and mechanicall or a handicraft, the full knowledge whereof was partlie gotten by vse, at that time by *Richard Hackdie* and *William Aunsell* Citizens, and partly by instructions and reason, taught & shewed by the marchants and Grocers then being, and was left to the execution of the said persons the officers aforesaid, the which aduises, aswel of the said Marchants, Grocers, and of the saide officers, are thus sette forth.

Hackdie & Aunsell, first garbellers after the said gift.

- 1 *The deuisions of Spices by the sayde parties, are particularlie set downe.*
- 2 *The same to be at no time altered.*

Chap. 2.



Or so much as euery thing hath his natural, proper and inward corruption, of which it is eaten and at the last consumeth and beginneth to spread it self in the best part to mar all, as rottenesse in spices is their proper euill. And for that also, the same spices are also subiecte (as all other things are) to accidents, and thereby also may be destroyed

Euery thing hath his naturall corruption, whereof at the last it is consumed.

ed before their naturall ouerthrow, as bruises, water, dust, and age in spices. Therefore for the amoiding and curing of such naturall corruption when it hapneth, & thorowly to meet with all such hurtfull accidents to such spices, being aliments and nutrimentes to restore and preserue the health of man, or to preuent some infirmities and diseases, ready to ouerthrow their good estate: We (say they as skilfull physitions, preventing diseases and labouring in forscene mischiefs, according to the causes wheron the effects of such corruption doo depend) haue ordained these deuisions to be obserued in the setting forth those spices, with their qualities by way of garbelling and first of:

Nutmegges.

The operation whereof we meane not to set forth, being no part of our charge: onely for the deuiding of the good from the badde, wee holde it necessarie that they bee deuided into three sorts.

The first & the best we cal case nutmegs, the which are smooth, waightie, faire, & full of oile.

The second sort we call Bale, the which are also faire and great but somewhat wrinkled, and heere and there oile in them, and declining to corruption.

The third and last sort we terme Rompes, so termed being wrinkled, brused, ill coloured, and do want their oile, and therby are become drie or rotten. The which sorts to be so seuerallye put vp.

Pepper

Pepper.

If the same by some accident shall receiue wet, or otherwise be euill conditioned : wee thinke it meete to be sorted by it selfe and to be kept from the drie. Both which to be garbelled and clensed from the dust and corrupt pepper, and to be vttered in one sort, in such manner as the same dooth arise from the place it came, and notwithstanding the head sort of pepper from the small.

Maces and Cinnamon.

We holde it best to garbell and clense them into three sorts, to wit: Lardge, middle & petit.

Ginger, Gaules, Rife and Erreus.

That the same shal passe into two sorts, (viz) Lardge and petit.

*Clopes, Graines, Woormseed, Anniseed, Commi-
seed, Dates, Senie, and all other things
garbellable.*

We likewise think it best to garble and clense them into one good sort from the dust and garbels, according to the nature of the thing it self.

- 1 The prooffe that those deuissions were by the
so appointed to be made and kept.
- 2 That the L. Maior and communalty by two
seuerall acts of Common counsell haue al-
lowed the same.
- 3 That the Garbeller therby is excluded to
make lawes by himself therein, or to alter
the same.

4 That

4. That the common people haue receiued the same as a custome, and doo in euery faire and market, procure troubles for putting spices to sale, garbelled to the contrarie.

Chap. 3.



Or the approuing of which Deuifions, besides the antient remembrance therof, leste with Maister *Blaze Saunders* late garbellor, the same may plainelie appeere in this. That in *Flanders*, Marchantes before then, and long since, brought from *Antwerp*, *Brudges* and *Roane*, their Nutmegs and other spices in such condition and sorts as is before said, with a scale of the figure of the right hand vppon euery vessell or bagge of case nutmegs and other spices in such condition and sortes as is afore said. And on their baile Nutmegs, a hand with a barre ouerthwart, and the other fort without marke. And in such sorts the same were bought and sold, as by an acte of Common councell, holden by your predecessors it may appeare in Anno. 4. of K. Henry the viii. To the which deuifions, the Marchant, Retailor, and Garbeller (say they) shall hold themselues contented without alteration; vnlesse there shall bee cause of correction of those sorts, vppon search of them by the Garbeller in London: as also by another act of Com-

Common counsell made in An. 18. of K. Henry the eight, it is set forth: the which may appear at the end of this present discourse. The filth and dust of which said spices, were helde vnwholsome and not vendible but to be reiect-
 ed as vnseruiceable: your predecessors then were mooued with those reasons, to allowe and confirme those deuisions as reasonable and full of equitie betweene the marchant and the retailors, and were desirous that the same shuld also remaine and abide, for the auoiding of de-
 ceipt or losse of the common people, who haue in such measure noted and felt the benefite of the said deuisions, that now in open faires and places corporate, they doo daielie procure the spices sorted to the contrarie, to be seysed on as goodes forfeited, and not garbelled as they ought to bee, to the great trouble of the retay-
 lers, and notable detriment. Vppon these and such like beginnings, and by the acts of Com-
 mon counsell ensuing, the facte of garbelling hath had continuance, vntill now of late that couetousnesse or ignorance in the principall of-
 ficer, hath bred the change and ouerthrow of the pollitike deuise of this Art. These our pre-
 decessors also thought the fact of garbelling (as is before appointed) to be a bond of great vni-
 tie, for the retailors with the marchants, and of no lesse seruice for the Common-wealth: and in that sence, they all (by the humble petition of the garbeller) agreed, that it should be ena-
 ct

Couetous-
 nesse dooth
 worke con-
 fusion of all
 right.

The fact of
 garbelling
 a bond of
 vnitie be-
 twene the
 marchant
 and the gro-
 cers.

sted by a common counsell therefore especial-
 lie made, that he might visite the garbelling of
Antwerpe and *Brudges*, onely to refine if neede
 were, but not to alter their said deuisions: and
 that the Marchants and retailors should not af-
 terwards alter their sortes of garbelled spices,
 but put the same to sale, in such wise as the same
 spices were garbelled (in such manner as is by
 the premises iustlie to be inferred) and not be-
 fore they were so garbelled or refined, vppon a
 penaltie therein expressed; and to be accounted
 as an enimie to that forme, appointed therein
 for common good, as we before haue remem-
 bred, for the obseruation of which indifferen-
 cie, the said officer taketh his corporall oth. And
 forsomuch as the fact of garbelling cannot bee
 good, but after one sort, but to the euill it may
 be many waies done: as to hit a white, there
 is but one waie, but to misse it there are many
 waies. We say as commonlie it is said, that that
 thing is rightly don, which is done to the order
 and institution of good pollicie. And for such
 we esteeme those deuisions to be, and that they
 are the only way of cleane garbelling, for the
 common wealth, whereon that art dependeth,
 and for whose sake the Marchant is contented
 to make the Garbeller the maister of his mar-
 chandize for the time, (the inconueniencies
 whereof he best feeleth, but least knoweth) and
 the retaylor is appointed his instrument to put
 the same to sale, according to the deuisions so
 made

There is
 but one way
 to goodnes.

The Mar-
 chant fee-
 leth the
 hurt by the
 garbellers
 presence in
 his house.

made bought and sold, whereby it is made very apparant to your wisedomes, that the fourtaingtie of that and euery other good order, is the sure foundation thereof, with the vnion and bond of all the particulers, for whose cause the same was conceiued, made and aduanced, and heerein as in all other cases, if euery man should haue no other respect but to his owne, their vnty would soone be dissolued.

Chap. 4.

1. The greefes of the Retailors grocers.
2. What it is they doo require of the Lorde Mayor and Aldermen.



Yt to resume & to continue the speech by vs alreadie begun, of the abule of this art. We saye, that iniury is offered to those goods of Marchants, and by the sale of those goodes, to the honor and person of the seller: the which iniurie is not doone by force, for force may bee repelled by force, but by fraude and by this fraud an iniustice passeth to all, the which is to be removed by reformation. And heerein wee are not called to do, but to demand iustice, the which wee require, euen no further, then that those lawes of your predecessors, made as touching the fact of Garbellling may be kept and obeyed

C

by

The garbeller is not to make lawes at his pleasure, nor to place nor displace any without consent of the l. maior

Nothing is profitable that is not honest

by those workmen, who are parties thereto: the which belongeth to your offices to see performed. And vnder this obedience, is conteined that moderation which the officer in this Art of garbelling, ought to obserue, namelye, that hee must not of his owne motion directe such maner of Garbelling as himselfe pleaseth, nor abuse the manner of garbelling firste vsed; nor by the same abuse, take vpon him any parte of the maiestrates office, in iudging and making forfeit what hee liketh. It is for the Commonwealths sake (whome he may thanke) that hee commeth into the Marchantes dores: & therefore it is meet for him to speake, say, and do all thinges for the preseruacion thereof by his facultie, as it was first appointed by your predecessors, who were as you are, armed with power, to enforce his obedience to these their ordinances, or to punish the contrarie, or to remoue him. But forsomuche as couetousnesse, wherewith a man beeing surprised, shall want knowledge howe to command himselfe, maye entice him to fall from all antient orders, and to practise strange deuisions, aswell of spices, as of profit and honestie, the which are neuer separated in matters of good qualitie; for nothinge is iust nor profitable if not honest: and he that maketh a deuision of them, by setting forth and separating his actions in this wise, saieng, this deed is honest, but that deed is profitable for me, he cannot be without fraud: but will

will rend a sunder all equitie ordained by publicke power. Therefore wee haue set foorth the abuses nowe offered, and wherein the antient deuisions are not obserued, and howe these deuisions nowe vsed, bringeth detriment to the Marchant and losse to the retaylors, as we haue taken in hand, being the second point by vs set downe in the premises of this discourse, and to shewe wherein the antient order is obserued though corruptlie, and whye the garbeller of late sued to haue his manner of garbling, with further authoririe to be allowed to him, by acte of Common counsell.

Chap. 5.

- 1 The particular abuses of the Garbeller in this office, aswell in the clensing and deuinding of spices, as in the putting vp of the same.
- 2 By those abuses, he will conuert great benefite either to the Marchant or to the retaylor at his pleasure: the which could not happen, if the antient orders were kept.



And first in Nutmegs, for expedition and hast (the first point of his gaine) though it make wast to all others. He woulde and oftentimes dooth drawe them into one sort, casting out

Hast makes wast.

some of the Rompes; and by that one sorte he may vppon occasion of bribes, displeasure or ignorance, conuert the same sometimes to the benefit of the Marchante, and otherwhiles to the grocer retaylor, as is heereafter declared: but to whomsoever it is, the common people haue the harme thereby, and the retaylor is very often discredited: and by these meanes, contentions are, maye bee, and haue beene moued, betweene the marchant, seller, and buier. For by this workmanship this fraud is maintained: that on the top of his vessell or bag, there are bestowed nutmegs of faire condition, and in the bottome or a foot downwards, there are found Nutmegs not so good, by vi. viii. and xii. pence in the pound: And to the contrarye when he list, the worst are laid vppermost, and in such sorte, that the retaylor must make sale thereof vppon forfeiture of the same, a thinge which could not happen by the ancient deuisions, for thereby the best are set foorth by it self, by the name of case, being such as is aforesaide, full of oile, faire and of good perfection, and more permanent and lasting then others, and is knowne by his marke. The next sort beeing called baile, is not halfe so oilie as the case, but declining and apt to corruption, and are not to be put vp among the best, for that it wil disgrace them speedilie, and in short time change into a Rompe: the which matter common and daily experience proueth, the which by a man skilful,
and

Nutmegs
falselic pack-
kd vp.

and a cunning Garbeller may easilie be drawne
 fro the best, but not by the vnskilful, so that the
 remainder being rompes are left to themselves.
 The which we wish, for that the same is a spice
 of choise and price, that the garbelling and pur-
 ting vp thereof, were committed to menne of
 better iudgement and skill, as by the garbellers
 owne petition it is required, and not to those
 whoe nowe are artificers therein, for that they
 know not how, or maliciouslie will not deuide
 the same as they ought to be, being a matter of
 great importance and of regard. Heereby and
 by the sequell, you may see the abuses, and easi-
 lie discern the differences of this garbelling to
 one sort (the which is no garbelling, but a prac-
 tise tending to abuses as is heereafter prooued)
 & the ancient deuisions, & heerewithall you may
 note the danger (if we may call it a danger) that
 by this practise of the deuiding of Nutmegs in-
 to one sort, the marchant and the retaylor pre-
 sent and to come heereafter, may and do incur
 by the said Act of common counsell, made An.
 18. of king Henry the viii, the said deuision be-
 ing contrarie to the ancient custome: for where
 it is said, that no marchant nor other, doo sell in
 grosse or retaile within the Cittie of London,
 any manner of spices before it be garbelled, tri-
 ed, and made cleane by the officer, as of olde
 time accustomed: whereby it may or shall eu-
 identlie appeare to the buiers thereof, to be good
 perfect, cleane and whollome, vpon paine of

The mar-
 chant doth
 forfeit his
 wares by
 the manner
 of garbel-
 ling nowe
 vsed.

The practice of the
garbeller is
to intrappe
the Mar-
chant.

forfeiture of the same spices so sold. The which
matter is not nor can be performed in this one
sort of deuinding; but to make it a danger (as we
take it) the garbeller hath humbly besought
your honour and worships of late, to giue him
power by order and acte of common councell,
to seize vppon all such wares and spices, as are
made forfeitable by the same act, and other acts
since made, the which authoritie (hee saith) is
wanting in the same Acts. This being conside-
red, we cannot sufficientlie maruaile, what hath
moued him to enter into so preposterous a
course; for from this abuse in nutmegs, he hath
fallen further to abuse the ancient sort and man-
ner of garbelling of

Pepper.

The wet and drie pepper are to vs the re-
faylors sold and mingled together, and in that sort
by him garbelled; nay rather vngarbelled; but
the same in that wise, we are inioyned to put to
sale, whereby we are hindered and the people
deceiued, and the Marchants still in danger of
the statutes before mentioned, and the head or
greatest pepper of both wet and dry are taken
apart, & mingled with other sorts, from whence
it was not taken, and in brieffe he maketh deu-
isions therein as himselfe liste, and contrarie to
the ancient order, the which was, as is asorlaide,
but in one sorte the drie pepper by it selfe with-
out subtracting the greatest from the same, and
the

the wet pepper by it selfe, the difference beeing noted by the scale thereon, the which was well knowne to our predecessors. But heereby the common people are much abused, being constrained to buy the small from the great, and the wet with the drie: the one tainted and corrupted with salt water, and vnwholsome and altered in colour, and the best thereby made worse.

Maces and Cynamon.

He obserueth the antient order of deuiding them into three sorts, but in such wise, that by the packing and putting vp of the same, no such indifferency is vled, but that by his oath he may be called in question therein.

Ginger, Gaules, Rife and Errend.

He likewise obserueth the antient manner of passing them into two sorts.

Cloues, Graines, Woormseed, Anniseed, Commifseed, Dates, Senie, and all other things garbellable.

He sorteth them into one sort, from the dust and garbels but corruptie: the rather for that in all he reserueth this power to himselfe, to disgize the Marchant or the retaylor, for by separating the great from the small, hee may laie the one or the other so vpwards or downwards that if his fauor be not bought, nor craved, hee may conuert the benefite which waye himselfe

Profitable
aduersaries
to the Gar-
beller.

listen; either to the marchant or to the retay-
lor. And so much as the substance of our
griefe consisteth in the vnderstanding of these
abuses and imperfections, therefore wee may
with more safetie, and without the imputation
of curiositie enter therinto; otherwise we might
be thought curious, in seeking after other mens
faults (a matter from which wise men will di-
uert and quench the same) for as sometime, it
is good to cease to inquire after lawfull things,
as an exercise and practise of iustice: so it is like-
wise expedient, sometime to leaue vntaken that
which a man may lawfullie take, whereby to re-
strain the desire of vnlawfull taking. But by
this our curiositie, we wish to bee more profita-
ble to the aduersarye of our good then to our
selues, by shewing him of what he is to beware,
and what to correct. And first to prooue these
abuses to be such in this workeman, whom wee
haue regarded as the principal body (the which
being infected, the members his ministers can-
not doe their dutie.) We say, that albeith he pro-
miseth, that he will well and lawfullye behaue
himselke in the office of Garbelling, without a-
ny partialitie, taking reasonable; and that after
he hath packed vp the goods by him garbelled;
he will set thereon a marke, that the common
wayer may take knowledge thereof: yet in these
matters, and in many other things appertaining
to that office, he departeth from his saide pro-
mise in behauing himselfe, as in this Chapter
following it appeareth. *Whereas*

Chap. 6.

- 1 Whereas the principall Garbeller vseth diuers practises, tending to the slander of the office, therefore heerein are set forth some of the same practises
- 2 The proofes thereof are set forth by a petition of the workemen of the saide office, which remaineth with the bodye of this societie.



Orsomuch as the Garbeller affirmeth, that this maner of garbellling is a lawfull manner of garbellling: therein we (as our predeceslors did) do not repute it lawfull garbellling, to put wet and dry pepper together: a thing by him vsed.

Item, To giue licence to any man to buy spices garbellable, and to licence one and not another, to carrie the same hither and thither vngarbelled, vnder his passing seale, is not lawfull; a matter very notorious and enterteineth suspicion of much euill.

Item, to arrest some marchantes, and not other some for keeping their goods vngarbelled, longer then the Act of Common councell appointeth, is (so farre as hee can allowe) partialitie.

D

Item,

Item, To take money of marchants before their goods be garbelled, and to take more money of one then of another for garbelling of like commoditie, is partialitie: likewise to take more money, then by the act of common counsell is limited, is vnlawfull.

Item, To garbell Nutmegs into case & baile according to the ancient custome in one place, and not in another, is partialitie.

Item, By skill and pollicie, to hinder the sale of marchants in their goods, requireth disfranchisement, the which may arise, by puttinge Nutmegs into one sort together in one place, and to hinder the sale of the like in another place, he will deuide them into two sorts, wherein the retaylor, so long as hee may finde them so deuided, will neuer looke to him with one sort: and heereby oftentimes, the Marchant is constrained to regarbell them. But to wade further into these or other particularities of his proceedings were too tedious; & are not heerein for diuers good causes to be discouered: by these it is euident, that the Art of garbelling is not lawfully vsed, but by him vnlawfully abused, and the skilfull ruling or gouerning of a companie is to begin in himselfe: but the head being such, let vs behold the proceedinges of his ministers.

Chap.

Chap. 7.

- 1 Diuers notable abuses doone by the workemen vnder the said garbeller.
- 2 They can deceiue both Marchant and grocer, and their leader also.
- 3 The Marchantes may saue 2000 poundes yeerelie, if the ancient manner of garbelling were obserued.



Of long since, a marchant had a commodity wherein the workmen garbellers laboured, by the space of xiiii. daies : the which commoditie, for that it was bought or at the least agreed for, before the garbelling thereof, by certaine retailors, the Marchant promised his reward to these ministers, the retaylor also promised their reward, to haue the same well and duellie garbelled : but secretlie and vnder-hand, one of the said ministers required of one of the retaylor xx. shillings, promising therefore to leaue good garbell, if he bought the same garbell: the retaylor made his countenance to gratifie this friendship, but he would not parte with any of the mony required, vntill he saw this promise to succeed, in this hope these garbellers labored to

The deceiver is deceived.

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make good garbell vntil the end, and the retaylor made hast to buy this garbel at a good price, hoping to haue had store of good stuffe in the same; and also to reteine his promised reward: the which by delaies these garbellers suspected. And therevpon one of them maketh sute to the marchant that he might buy the said garbell, he had his answer, that he came not in time, it was sold to the retaylor: to this the said workeman and his consortes gaue countenance of their good liking, but withall to couer their abuse, and to reuenge the breach of the retaylors promise, one of them closeth with the Marchant, and saith: Sir you promised vs a reward to take paines in this commoditie, for the true garbelling thereof, the which is perfourmed on our parte, but if you will giue vs xx.s. the garbell shall be againe cast ouer, and thereby we doubt nor, but to profit you very much. Whye saith the Marchant, my masters you know my mind, they that pleasure me, to them I will not be vngatefull.

Heerevpon to it they go, and by regarbling of the garbell, the marchant saued v. pound, or more in money; their rewarde was giuen, and the garbell is packed vp, the which the retaylor with some gladnes and cost receiued; knowing nothing of the regarbling thereof, and in lieu of his reward, giueth fewe and cheape wordes of thanks to the Garbellors; whose commending the same in derision, leaueth the same to his

his further and gentle consideration. By this
 (beeing one of the least of their bad practises)
 your Lordshippe and worships may see the vn-
 due regard, the saide Garbeller and workemen
 doo beare in these affaires to their duties, the
 rather for that there is as yet, no good lawe ap-
 pointed to hold them therevnto: by these also
 we enforme our selues (and so some of vs haue
 heard it deliuered, by the mouthe of some of
 those ministers) that the marchants in this citie
 (if reformation were heerein had by an expert
 garbeller) might saue 2000 poundes yearlie,
 whereof in this wise they are deceitfully defrau-
 ded, besides the harmes the retaylor and the
 common people do sustaine by their bad prac-
 tises, a great impietie in the substance therof, the
 rather for that vnder the colour of garbling, for
 the health and wealth of the people, the pro-
 per owner of such goodes, dooth receiue abuse
 within his owne doores. Truelie the question
 why euery such proprietary of such goods, may
 not chuse the same, as well as to haue an officer
 therof, hath waightie reasons on both sides,
 but it is out of our purpose to dispute thereof.
 And for further prooffe of the second point
 of our determination, the which is, that the de-
 nitions nowe ysed, are contrarie to the causes,
 for the which the saide Act was conceiued. We
 say as is before said, That by the impunitie of
 these offences, and from thence many shiftes
 and sleights are raunged and deuised, the
 which

This losse
 may be com-
 pared to the
 Ecco which
 cannot bee
 found but
 yet is sensi-
 bly heard &
 knowne.

which by the weakenesse and ignorance of the principall garbeller, is fostred in the members his workemen, cheeffie by the small account which is made of the accomplishment of the ancient manner of garbelling, the which being misregarded, these mēbers (good fellows, right Honourable, that wil make you to beleeeue that flies doo carry pyke-staues, in those countries from whence these spices doo come) are comforted, contrarie to the fourme and fashion of this Art, in the retch of the said principall officer, and before his face, strangelic and notable to defraud him of his dutie, and corrupt theyr whole affaires, to the preiudice of the retaylors, but chieffie of the Marchants, & amongst many others, this one we thinke meete to haue it remembred for his auail.

A Marchant hath a commoditie of Cloues, Maces, Wormeseed, or such like to bee garbelled, the quantitie is waied, or otherwise known to this head garbeller, and founde to bee some 600 pound waight, it being clenfed, the good of some one of these commodities, ariseth to 300. or 400. pound waight, from which quantitie, these members beeing confederates with the Marchants man (who maketh it no sinne to deceiue the deceiuer) withdraweth the thirde or halfe, hauing ready the like waight of olde garbell. Now this head garbeller, for the leuying of his dutie, reuisiteth the waight aforesaid, then to disguise him, they will thrust the olde and

and new garbell together to hold waight, and thereby measure and leuie his durie, according to the good remaining: and the rest of his durie is good prize to them, in which ouer-reach, the sealer likewise in his office is as handsomely disguised: the manner howe is vnfit heere to be set downe.

Chap.8.

- 1 *The notable and intollerable deuices of these workemen, to beguile the Marchant.*
- 2 *The meanes how to reforme them.*



These inconueniences as is most apparant, may well bee preuented, by following the antient manner of Garbelling, associating the same with the petitions ensuing, all tending to one vni-forme order in garbelling, to the benefit of all: for by dissorting of the said spices from the antient deuisions; the said workmen in this office, to the great preiudice of all parties, take libertie to packe the commoditie vppe verie corruptlie, and will giue such secret marks, either by a knot made on the third, in the bagge made vp, or by a spot of Inke, that being confederate with another of their friends, who shall come to buy the same of the marchant, may thereby know how much or how deepe, the best sort doo lie vnder

A bad practice of the workemen against the marchant.

the second, or worst sort, the which is laid vpon purpose vpon the top of the bagge, & heere by a man of their intelligence, shall take vp the best commoditie; and leaue the worst to the retaylor, yea and pay lesse for the same, then for the remainder: the marchant beleeuing that he holdeth the best sorts stil, by reason that the best of his commodities is laid vppermost. Wherein we informe our selues, that the marchant loseth v. pound in the hundreth waight, by their differences in garbelling and putting vp of the same. The losse runneth not to the benefite of the retailors, but by the bad handling thereof, his losse likewise ensueth. Besides we take that regarbling is intollerable, and falleth out as euil to the retailor, as filching of the best falleth out to the Marchant, albeit the waight bee made vp by a little old garbel, bought of purpose (a matter if it be often vsed, for the marchant to looke vnto) all which considered, with manye more wherein euery one of vs haue a sufficient feeling thereof in himselfe by his owne harme. We say that the principall officer, may thinke that these abuses are contrarie to the meaning of the firste erection of garbelling, and that the good of the Common-wealth heerein, is the lawe of this Art: and that hee nor his, can commit a fault, nor yet rest from their duties without the hurt of those, whose health and benefite is cheefelie considered in this art, the which is but a deuision of the good from the bad spices, and not to
him

Note.

hinder the marchantes sale or his distribution thereof, or the retaylors detriment by sleighthes and practises of their owne inuentions, and further if he hadde reason of the alteration of anye of these ancient ordinances; if these were euill established, and coulde obtaine suche as are agreeing with themselves: yet in reason hee is to bring, aswell the Marchant as the retaylor, in hart and mind to helpe the estate therof, and he is not of his owne motion, to intermeddle in the reformation thereof, it being not his priuate affaires: and they all are to shewe it to the superiour, whom we know and take you to be, whose hands are vnbound, to dispose and to order these affaires, becing more publike then private.

But to growe brieve in this matter alledged, and to set forth some resolutions in such questions as may arise hereof. And first, where it is by some marchants, Ignorant in the qualitie of garbell and spices (the which sometime falleth into their handes that expect not for them) alledged, that if the antient deuisions shoulde be vsed, that then they shoulde sell the best, and be constrained to keepe the other sortes: as in Nutmegges. If they bee deuided into case and baile, the case may be solde and the Bayle shall remaine. And therefore they like the same to bee doone into one sorte. Herevnto we saye, and will amende his account in this manner: That if the said marchante haue three bagges

Question.

Answer.

E

of

waight of nurnegs into one sort, hee taketh as his due xvi. shillings. These three men can draw those into that sort in half a day, and do receiue xviii. pence for their labour, so his gaine is cleer xiiii. shillings vi. pence, the which if they were dulle garbelled would aske three daies worke, the labour whereof ariseth to nine. s. wherein it plainelie appeareth, that by passing this 600. waight into one sort, he gaineth xiiii. shillings six pence, in halfe a day, and by keeping the ancient deuisions, he gaineth but six shil. in three daies, the which is the cause of his expedition: without care either to the welfare of the Merchant, retaylor, or to the people into whose hands the same doo passe. But wee referre it to your Honourable consideration, to iudge what gaine this expedition bringeth in six daies, whe he hath xiiii. shillings six pence, in a forenoon. The which being by his workemen well noted for recreation sake, and to try the iudgement of the saide principall garbeller for a *Dilemma* in this expedition, they will sometime get a heape of small stones and laye them by their worke, and themselves will play the good fellows and let all alone: wherewith if any discontentment doo grow by the master garbeller for expedition, then they doo shewe these stones, and aske him if that be no labour to picke them out, and thereby these poore men sometime doo gaine a daies labor or two. Wherin for that these workmen haue of themselves found out and requi-

The good
of the com-
monwealth
is the lawe
of true gar-
belling.

red certaine orders to bee kepte among themselves, and accordinglie haue made their request to the said officer, the which is correspondent to the matter by vs required, therefore we haue caused the same their orders to be heerein set soorth, to the end, that the said cheefe garbeller may be enioyned to allowe thereof, as a meane and for a principall correction of theyr former abuses and conuerfation, by the repetition whereof, these persons our friends will bee angered (as is very like.)

Anger better to be tolerated than vice.

But it is not materiall, so that they bee bettered, and for that purpose, we are their friends; and anger is better to be tolerated then vice, or such inconueniencies as are aforesaide. But forsomuche as reprehension will breede but small reformation heerein: we for that we know that your intent is to embrace the cause that runneth to the auaille of the common-wealth, and to suppress the contrarye, do sue to your lordshippe, that by waie of your decree, confirmed by Act of Common counsell, it maye bee perpetuallie and irrenouceable ordeined, that the auntient and firste ordinances aforesayde, may be observed and kept, and all other exercise of Garbelling to bee abolished. And that inso-much as the saide workemen therein, are fallen from their true labour, and by negligence of their gouernour, doo falsifie their workes, to the hurt of manye, partly for want of a reasonable fallerie, the which may bee redressed, if the orders

orders by themselues contriued and heerein sette forth may be granted, beeing such in our opinions, as doo stonde to publike profite, as well as to the private gaine of the saide office: That the same their ordinances may likewise be ratified with this.

That none doo worke, in the sayde office, but able meane and suche as haue skill, as the Garbeller himselfe, by his petition requireth, and to bee by your Honourable assent first allowed.

He requireth to vse men of skill, but he will vnskilfully vse them.

And further, for that the enuie of their doo-inges hath exposed and made the Retaylor, subiect to manye mislikings with the people, whoe doo bnie the saide spices (for an ease in this euill) it maye also please you, to giue your assent for the publication and confirmation of these ordinances also ensuyng; whereby neyther the Marchantes, Retaylors, nor Grocers, beeing Chapmen abroad, nor common people may reenter into any feare, to be abused by the enterprises of these needie workemen, beeing no Winterlinges nor colde-hanlers, of and in the Arte of garbellings: wherein as wee haue noted the mischiefe, so wee haue founde out the remedie, by this necessarie pathe, beeing accompanied with the auntient order, the which hether to hath beene broken vppe and disturbed, by the mysse-regarde of the fistte and chiefe Garbeller, whose practise hath byn and is (more & more) vnder sundrie pretences

The remedies in these euils.

to abase the credite and authoritie of those ancient deuisions of spices, and to gaine partakers to overthrowe all that stande in his waye; by him taken to ouerreache the absolute power of handling the saide office in London, to him giuen by your Honors predecessors, as he doth by his garbelling in other places, by force of hir maiesties letters patents to his own purposes: and hath indeuoured to possesse them diuerslie and their fauours, to the end aforesaid; and hath presumed to make lawes in some cases, and in other cases he craueth the same to be established by an act of common counsell: And that also it may bee ordeined that his ministers and workmen vnder him, may take their oathe to obserue the same to their vttermoſte, the which for that they be not contrarie nor prejudiciall to the order of the antient maner of garbelling, but onely doo tend to this end, that we may haue and receiue our spices duly deuided and so packed vp, or else that we may compasse our remedie, if those antient deuisions should be falsified or corrupted.

We therefore haue particularly set foorth the true vniſormitie in garbelling of euery spice in his kind, for the more better and plaine directing of the said workemen, and all other therein. And that in case in the execution of these ordinances and labour, the saide principall officer shall not receiue a sufficient fee, vppon euery thing garbelled, that then his duty may bee in-

equall, to the end that the stalks of the said pepper, may be seperated from the good pepper: that beeing doone, there remaineth then nothing, but that the garbeller doo fanne out all the light pepper, from the saide good pepper. And forsomuch as it is impossible for the garbeller (if he respect expedition) so to fanne, but that he shall throw out much small, hard, wrinkled pepper that is good, Therefore hee ought to regarble the saide light pepper againe. And that which he findeth to bee sound, although it be small, yet he ought to put the same into the good pepper, and so to mingle it, that hee deceiue neither the marchant, nor Grocer, for in such a case as this is, many times it resteth in the disposition of the Garbeller, to please or displease as is before recited. If he should mingle vpon the toppe, or within a little from the top it woulde lunder the sale of the pepper per adventure two pence in a pound: againe if it be mingled in the middle or in the bottom, so farre from the sight of the Grocer, that hee is not able to discern the same, then is hee hindered many times two pence in a pound. And therefore to prevent this fault and such like in many other spices, which may be so garbled and mingled together, that the one or the other shall be mightilie deceived. We therefore haue thought it good, to deuise a marke for the workman, that dooth garbell and put vpon marchantes spices: that when he hath made vpe his worke, the

the same marke with his name, may be set upon the top of the bag, or other vessell, shewing thereby the deuision and sorte therein contained, and the goodnes therof (notwithstanding the seale of the garbeller to be vsed at his pleasure) the which marke may passe with *Bonus, melior, optimus*, according to the thing garbelled, as thus for an example.



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The which marks may be printed in paper, and
every of the said workemen to carrie his owne
marke. *Cloues.*

The small
cloue as
good as the
great.

Are a sweete spice, and profitable to garbell,
and in them there is no great cunning to bee
shewed by the workemen, but to garbell them
cleane, by picking them vpon a Table, and after
that the dust is sifted out, the small cloue is as
good as the biggest, and therefore there canne
come no great hurt to the Marchant or grocer,
if the smallest be put either in the toppe, bottom
or middest: only this there resteth vpon the skil
of the sworne garbeller, to certifie by his marke
whether they be wet or drie, that is so put vp.

Maces.

These flues
and such
like are to
be provided
by a ring of
iudgement
as well as
hath bene
trained vp
in garbling

Are a spice that ought to bee deuided by the
Garbeller, into three seuerall deuisions, viz:
large, myddle, and petit, and to performe this
matter, he ought to haue a sieue of a reasonable
scantling to sift the myddle from the large, and
likewise a sieue fit for the purpose to take the
dust from the petit. This beeing doone, the
shelles, nuttes, feminine Maces, and such like
stufte beeing taken out, their resteth a kinde of
honestie in the sworne garbeller, that putteth
them vppe into the Barrell, bagge, or hogeshed,

to see whether the large maces be all of one like goodnesse, if the one halfe or part of them bee brighter then the other, by twelue pence or two shillings in the pound, and if two sortes of maces be mingled together in the marchants house before the garbeller doo come vnto the owner thereof, or otherwise by himselfe at the request of the marchant: then in such cases as this is, he ought to put on his marke according to the goodnesse thereof. This course beeing once taken, it will little preuaile the marchant to deceiue the Grocer, by putting on bright Maces vpon the toppe of his vessell; againe, by a true marke the marchant shall be releued although they do appeare worst in sight, vpon the view of the grocer.

Synamon. being floured to make ydell for the garbeller to use.

Also is a spice to bee deuised into three severall sortes, viz: Large, myddle, and petit, in this kind of Spire there is no great skill to be used, only this: that the Garbeller that shall garbell it, ought to see that amongst the large Synamon, there be no middle Synamon, viz: Synamon vnpipec, neither yet any great gony sticks or otherwise blacke, which if he finde anye, hee ought to breake them in peeces, and to put euery stick in his right place, the middle synamon which shall come from the large, ought to bee so handled, that the garbeller deale not parti-

Synamon
blacke, ha-
uing taken
salt water
loseth his
substance, &
otherwise it
may bee
good.

allie betweene the marchante and the grocer ;
 their ought nothing to be taken from that sorte ;
 but so much petit as will passe through a ginger
 sieue, that being doon, the dust with the strawes
 are to be taken from it , by fanning by a worke-
 man of skill. And for so much as there are diuers
 sorts of Synamon of sundry goodnes, therefore
 the skilfull Garbeller, ought to haue this speci-
 all regard, that is, that he after the garbelling of
 any such sort, doo set on a iuste and true marke,
 as well profitable to the marchant as to the Gro-
 cer.

Nutmegges. These are to be deu-
 ided into three
 sorts, viz. Case, Baile, and Rompes; and with-
 out a garbeller of iudgement and skill haue the
 handling thereof, they cannot be truely garbel-
 led as they ought to be, for the benefit of the
 Marchant, and all those that shall buie them.
 And therefore to performe this true garbelling,
 they must be sorted and deuided out, every one
 from the other according to their goodnes, the
 case nutmegges must be full oboile, the baile nut-
 megges likewise must containe so much oile in
 him, that if he be forced betweene the finger &
 the thumbe, and will not hold, he is then to be
 cast among the Rompes; and for expedition,
 the workeman must sifte the dust and peeces
 from the Rompes and other nutmegges before
 they denide them, and this workeman that tra-
 keth the charge of their making vp, ought to set

a iust and a true marke vpon the top of the bag,
anwercable to their goodnes, to the ende that
the Grocer may know what he buileth, and with
out this order be followed, the marchant shall
not iustlie know what hee selleth, nor the Gro-
cer what he buileth.

Ginger.

Likewise, is a spice that is to be deuided into
two sorts, viz. large and petit: in this spice there
is no great skill to be vied, considering now the
manner of his garbelling. Ginger garbelled at
Antwerpe, or otherwise vngarbled frō by south:
the manner of deuiding is all one, for by a sieue
appointed for the purpose ginger is sifted, at the
will and pleasure of him that taketh the sieue in
hand, and also one falleth the good through as
the bad, and thereby it lieth in the power of the
garbeller, to please or displease whome hee will
for a rewarde. In this kinde of spice there is no
certaintie in garbling, for one while the sieue is
too great, and another while too little, but be-
twene too great and too little, it cannot be tru-
ly garbelled: but after the manner of his garbel-
ling, the one sort beeing taken from the other,
with a few stoncs or strawes or other filth ther-
in contained, it is become cleane good, & whole-
some for mans body.

But the manner to handle the same, is to sift
out the dust and lay the ginger vpon a table and
to picke the same by hand, viz. the large from

Note.

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The true
garbling of
ginger, is to
picke it by
hand vpon
a table.

Information

the small, and every rafe of Ginger be it great or small having substance in it, is to bee rearmed large, and contrariwise, every rafe being long or broad wanting substance, is to be accounted of as petit. This course in garbelling of ginger, by a sworn garbeller being performed, the marchant shal benefit more then heertofore he hath doone, by five pound vpon the hundreth, as hath bene prooued. And the retailing grocer shal bee no more deceived; and the garbeller shal haue his fee (no doubt) answerable to his paines taking.

Gawles

Gawles are a commodity for another manner of purpose then for mans sustenance; they serue for Diers, and otherwise to be vsed; yet notwithstanding there is vnder a pretended colour of deuinding, some care had for the garbelling of them, but not in such manner & forme as they ought to be; expedition in the garbeller is the overthrow of the ancient deuisions, as is may appeere in the deuinding of these Gaules & other spices. These are deuinded into two sorts, but in such manner and order, that is resteth in the disposition of the Garbeller whom hee will please or displease, no vniuersitie in the garbelling of them is vsed at any time; but according to the smalnes of the gaule; so is there a fiue appointed; nay rather we should haue saide according to the greatnesse of the owner of them;

so

so is friendship offered. But nowe to speake of
their true manner of garbelling, there ought to
be a siewe appointed for the purpose, and the
skilfull sworn garbeller ought to haue the hand-
ling thereof, to sife and deuide as the siewe will
giue him leaue: this being doone, there resteth
then nothing, but to take out the stones, sticks,
oake apples, and suche like, and then they are
cleane.

Ryse

Ryse is a graine good for mans body, and is
to be deuided into two sorts, viz, large and pe-
tite. This commodity hath need of an honest,
skilfull, and a sworne garbeller, to sife and fan,
and otherwise to sorte and deuide the badde
Ryse from the good, with such iudgement and
skill, that all the good and sweete Ryse may bee
knowne from this badde and mustie; and
that by the marke he shall sette on; and without
a iust and a true marke, al men may be deceiued.
For the rise many times may and are oilye, mu-
stie, and full of wormes. There is no way bet-
ter to reforme what hath beene amisse in the
garbelling of this Ryse, then firste to appoint a
siewe of a true fantling, to the end to sorte and
deuide as is abouesaid.

Corrupted
Ryse.

Mustard

Are a commodity that for the most part come
filthy and full of dust and had neede of skilfull

garbellers, otherwise through the foulneſſe of
 the worke, there paſſeth many good ſeedes thro-
 rough their ſieve which are many times leſſe a-
 mong the bad to the great loſſe and hinderance
 of the grocer. To ſet forth the manner of their
 deuſions as they ought to be, is firſt to ſift them
 cleane from the ſtalke and other filth: that be-
 ing done there reſteth behind the greateſt labor
 which muſt be performed by fanning. And for
 that the labour thereto belonging is painfull to
 the workemen, and nothing gainefull, therefore
 they doo manye times neglect their duties. But
 to prevent this miſcheefe, there is no waie bet-
 ter then to giue ſuchie reaſonable allowance, as
 they may iuſtifie due by their labour: that being
 doone, the marchant ſhall haue no good ſeedes
 left in his garbell, neither the grocer bad ſeedes
 left in his good. And forſomuch as Anniceodes
 come many times euillie coloured, and muſtie,
 therefore the ſworne Garbeller ought to make
 known the goodnes, and cleaneſſe of the ſeedes
 by his marke ſet thereon as aforeſaid, otherwiſe
 the retaylors Grocers may be deceiued.

Wormſeede. This is a drugg that is much vſed for many purpo-
 ſes, this commoditie had aſmuch need of a ſkil-
 full garbeller as the Nutmegs, and in ſome re-
 ſpects more needfull, for Nutmegs are to be de-
 uided by ſize upon a ſcale, and doo require
 but a litle labour in reſpect of hard working,
 onely

only this, there is great iudgement and skill to be used in their deuitions: for wormesseed after that it is sifted, is to be made cleane by fanning, and that by much labour and paines taking. Of all commodities that are to bee garbelled, the workman deserueth not his money better then in this, if he garbell as hee ought to doe. That garbeller that shall handle this drug ought to be skilfull and iust, otherwise the marchants, Grocers, and people shall bee all deceiued, the Merchant in respect of the good seedes left among the bad, and the grocer & the rest, by the garbel which they buy among the good. But to prevent the same, it lieth in the power of a skilfull garbeller to remedy at his pleasure, if hee may haue tooles and fee answerable to his skill and paines. And here is a thing to be remembred, to the said workmen and others, that whereas there is alwaies as much and more good seedes left in the garbell of wormesseed then bad seedes in the good, and yet many times there are found the fourth part garbel, which they haue done with the best in such cases as this is, we will be with all our hearts, that the merchant might haue the garbell which we receiue among the good, and we the good seedes which are to bee found among the garbell, the which in this case we haue soide as is before said, and not as

More good
seedes left
in the gar-
bel, the bad
seedes in
the good.

Garbellers charge is the same as
Greens, Almonds, Dates, Seemie, Cornes, etc.
qv bbbbs T. v. v. v. and such like

G

They

They are to bee garbelled in all fidelitie for the
avoiding of deceit. But to set downe particular-
lie howe every of these commodities in their
kind ought to be garbelled, were a thing too te-
dious. But for that there is no better way then
the antient manner of Garbelling of spices, and
the iust packing or putting vppe of the same in
such manner as is aforesaid, the which may the
better be perfourmed, if your Honor and Wor-
ships doo make choise of some honest manne,
skilfull in that Art and action, to requisit and sur-
vey these workes and workemen, and to pay vp
the same as is before remembred. Therefore we
pray your Lordship, that these causes maye re-
ceiue due hearing, the rather for that we are in-
formed that the Clarke of her Maiesties spice-
rie hath herein found out the faults, and doo
search after convenient remedies, as is fit.

boog sielm
shil anbest
-ing arb ni
had beti, led
ni rebest
boog adt

Chapter. xii.
1. To be garbellers see and duetie for forthe
2. The vntable gaines by the labors of these men.
3. This condition is intolerable, in that he will not be
contented with the small rates in spices, where his
labour is great.



Customers as he maye be made
knowe to all persons what the
Garbellors duetie is, the same at
large is exprest in an act of com-
mon councel hereunto added vp-

on purpose, and therasher that it may also ap-
peere to all, the exaction doone by the garbel-
ler exceeding the same without warrant. And
for that he is not satisfied with the ancient rates,
nor with his owne exactions therein, but still
practiseth to haue a higher rate, it beeing pro-
bable that he by the easie labour of three men
in the weeke, may by the wages he now recey-
ueth, gaine cleerlie five pound and ywardes,
all his charges borne. Therefore wee haue par-
ticularlie set foorth some parte of his laboure,
with diuers reasons, prouing that he hath small
cause to find himselfe agreed, or to bee testi-
ous to the marchant about his allowances, or to
sue for higher rates, esteeming it a matter of
more indifferencie, that the marchants myght
rebathe the price of those things wherein the gar-
beller his labour is little, and his gaine great, and
to adde the same to such, as his paines are great
and his gaines very small. And for prooff heer-
of we say as his workmen in their booke to him
promised to performe, the which for that pur-
pose we haue also herewith annexed. That in

the which booke is written, vpon the C. the
which is 22. d. 4. s. 2. p. 10. which is
22. s. 10. d. 4. s. 2. p. 10.

By the labor of threemen he will garbell
in one day with bagges of popper from by
south, which is about 20. at vint. the 20.
hundred after the wailemister rate. And
seth to

But

G 3

But

By exacting
vpon pep-
per, gained
his meanes
wages, and
xii. pence
more then
his doe.

But his extraordinarie rate is $16s.$ vpon
every bag, amounteth to $16s.$ out
of which somme he dooth now allowe
his men for their workmanship; $7d.$ ob.
vpon every bag, the which ariseth to $11s.$
so that his cleer gaine is $5s.$ by the day.

He will garbell by the labor of three
men $C.$ li; waight in one day, his rate
which is allowed is $20d.$ for the
pound, the which ariseth to $16s.$ $8d.$
out of which somme he alloweth his
workmen three farthings for the
pound, the which ariseth to $6s.$ and
his proper gaines de claro is;

Likewise by the labour of foure men
he will garbell in one day $C.$ waight
his rate allowed is $17s.$ $8d.$ the which
ariseth to

By maces,
his mennes
wages gain-
ed extra-
ordinarie.

But his extraordinarie rate is $4s.$ vpon
every $C.$ waight, amounteth to $16s.$
out of which somme he dooth now allowe
his men 16 pence, vpon the $C.$ the
which is $5s.$ $4d.$ so his gaines de
claro is,

Also by the labor of foure men
he will garbell in one day $C.$ waight
his rate allowed is $17s.$ $8d.$ the which
ariseth to

But

But by his extraordinary rate here receiueth 2 s. 8 d. vpon every C. waight the which ariseth to 26 s. 8 d. out of which somme he alloweth his men x. d. vpon every C. waight, the which is 8 s. 4 d. and so he gaineth

By Symonds gained hys mens wages and 5 s. over.

Nutmegges.

Three men will garbell in a daye of this spice 6 C. waight and vwardes at xii. pence the C. beinge the olde rate ariseth to vi. s. for his due. But by his extraordinary rate he taketh 2 s. 8 d. vpon the C. whereby he raiseth his due to 16 s. out of which somme his men haue x. pence vpon the hundred waight. And for his gaines is cleerely

By Nutmegs gained 5 s. shil. more then the ancient allowance, besides the ouerplus of his mens wages.

Ginger also by the labor of his three men he will garbell 100 C. waight receiuing for it 6 pence vpon the C. after the olde rate ariseth to 10 s. His extraordinary rate is 4 d. vpon the C. waight ariseth to 2 s. 8 d. out of which sum he alloweth his men for workmanship 2 s. 8 d. vpon the C. waight, ariseth to 6 s. 8 d. for his gaines cleerly. By the like labor of three men he will garbell in one day 40 C. waight of saules at six pence the C. after the maiestrates rate, ariseth to,

By ginger gained his mens wages, and 9 pence more then his due.

But by his extraordinary rate he doth
receiue vpon euery C. waight, viii.d.
the which is added to 26. s. 8. d. out of
which summe hee alloweth his men
for workmanship 3. d. vpon the 100.
waight, groweth to x. s. for his gaine
is de claro,

In this also by the like labour for one
daies worke will haue for 40. C. waight
at 6. d. the hundredth being the mai-
strates rate,

But his extraordinary rate is 8. d. vpon
the C. out of which hee alloweth
his men three pence vpon the C. she-
which is x. s. And his gaine is

Answered

In these are great labor yet three men
will garbell the C. waight at 8. pence
the C. in one day, the which is the
maistrates rate is
His extraordinary rate is viii. d. vpon
the C. of which the workmen haue
three pence vpon the C. she-
two s. vi. d. and his gaine is

These are alwaies very soile, yet by
the labour of three men, 100 waight
may be garbelled in one day; the due
rate is two pence vpon the pound
the which is added to

ons: and wholie to bee drawne from the possession of the Marchants: Whereby it is to bee intended, that the avaricious and covetous the marchant and others, do have dubbed and falsified the labour of his workemen, by mixing the same with the thing garbelled: And for his countenance therein, produceth the wordes of the Actes of Common Council before recited, the which we take to be frivolous and not indifferent, yet very sufficient to make the said garbeller masterfull, and a ready means to hide and colour his owne follies, making the same his proposition and subject to talke of: Therefore, and for the preventing of that poore help, we have the rather advanced these old ordinances as aforesaid to be indifferent, and to quallifie that point of the said Act, in yielding up the said garbell and stuff to the chamberlaine or to any other: For if by your wisdomes it shall bee enacted, that this manner of garbelling before recited, shall be observed: and that such malle be made and made upon every sort, as is therein set forth, Then no abuse can or may arise but it may bee knowne, by whome the same commeth; whereby remedie may be had accordinglie, neither can any garbell or stuff be employed or used as the garbeller himselfe, against the Marchant and others: And therefore none of said for him to paye therewith to the garbeller or to any other, but more requisite to be from them deteined: garbellers, bologib bar bar

And nowe for an ende heerein, these shorte waies and manner of garbling, which wee haue remembred and set soorth being obserued, will bring vs all to an agreement, the which beeing denied or misregarded, these our petitions and reasons beeing once made knowne, the curses of those that shall suffer detriment in these affaires, we know cannot light vpon vs, but vpon the Authors of such offenses. And forsomuche as the body is preserued, by reason of that proportion, which euery member beareth towards it: so it is to be conceiued, that in this mysterie of the Grocerie, beeing compounded of the marchant, warehouse men, and the retaylors, each member shoulde carrie the same and like reason of proportion, for the sustentation thereof, the which cannot be had without the vnitie aforesaid. The which thing vndoubtedlie will come to passe, if these ordinances may bee by your wisdomes with the graue aduise of the councellors and cominaltie of this famous Citie, ratified and reduced into forme of lawe. Whereby euery party to this exercise, may bee constrained to walke in his vocation. Wherein we doo assure our selues, that you doo care, to direct your wil and works to the seruice of god, the Queenes maiestie and this our country, for whose seruice we all do liue.

Euery member dooth carry helpe to maintain the body according to his proportion.

Alought to liue for the seruice of their prince & countrey.

FINIS.

H

Heere ensueth the petition and orders, required of the workemen in garbelling of the principall garbeller, for the dissolving of such complaintes as were mooued against them (as they pretend) the which for that the same do containe many things worthe to be regarded: therefore we haue added the same to this discourse, as very pertinent thereto.

IT may please your worship to be informed, that forso-
much as it hath pleased you to aduise vs the companie of workemen to your office of garbelling, to assemble together, and to set downe such matter, as might shew the waies & meanes how to remooue the controuerfies, which are oftentimes stirred againste vs, and mooued amongst our selues, and how your Worshipp may reape more gaine by our common accord, then heeretofore you haue doone. Therefore we haue brieflie set downe in articles, the matters of our requestes, wherein if it shall please you, to answer vs in that mutuall care and consideration, by vniting and preferring vs, where-
by our common gaines may bee multiplied: then wee shall not onely thinke our selues men altogether of myserable fortune, to haue ledde our liues in that exercise and office, where-
by such dissention and preposterous orders are maintained, the which maye bee eased and redressed,

ressed, without hindrance or prejudice vnto your office, but also we shall be enforced to seek our remedie, and complaine to the Citty, or to hir Maiestie and Councell, for that wee shall hold the deniall heerof, & your meaning thereby to be suspected, and purposed to holde vs in debate and controuersie one with another. The which may and will bee auoided, in forme following;

Inprimis, Omitting to moue your worship, for the obtaining of anye priuiledges for your workemen or office (albeit the like is vsed, towards the workemen of the mint by reason of that office) and laieng aside such benefit as doth appertaine to your office, by not garbelling diuers things, which by vertue of your grant, are to be by vs garbled. And for auoiding of inuouation or alteration of any matter to your office appertaining, we onlie beseech your wor. to grant vnto vs this rate and price, the which we haue set downe in certain, vpon such things as are vsuallie garbled by vs, the allowing whereof, will not draw you into so great charge, wee working according to the same rate, as our working now dooth at xii. pence the day, as is heer- after prooued.

Pepper the bag,	for 8 d.	Wormseede the hun-	drd,
or else by the hundred		Nutmegs deuided in	
waight,		Cloues the C,	65.8 d.
Maces the C,	18 d.	to case, baile, & romps,	
		the hundred,	

Synamon the C, 12, d Gum arabeeke the C, 3, d
 Graines the C, 4, d Bayberies the C, 2, d
 Ryse the C, 3, d Dates the C, 4, d
 Anniseedes the C, 6, d Orchall the C, 6, d
 Comminseed the C, 6, d Mastick the C, 4, d
 Turnericke the C, 3, d Frankenfence the C, 6, d
 Gawles the C, 3, d Orris the C, 3, d
 Senie the C, 2, 3, 6, d Staues acre the C, 3, d
 Nutmegs the hundred, Gallingall the C, 6, d
 the rompes beeing onely Setwall the C, 6, d
 taken out, 12, d Long pepper the C, 6, d
 Cassia fistula the C, 12, d Spignard the C, 12, d
 Colianders the C, 3, d Ginger the C, 4, d

But for such sorts of wares as are perished, wet
 rotten or worme-eaten, wherein much labour
 is to bee bestowed, wee except the rate sette
 downe; of which was no possibility to mention

The prooffe of the gaine hereby.

The games which shall or may redounde to
 you, by the labour of all your workemen now
 employed, and by their labourers associat, by
 allowing of the saide rates required, ariseth vn-
 to in the yeere, aboue one hundred pounds, or
 more then you doe now receiue by their work-
 (allowing but xii. pence to each workeman and
 viii. pence to euery labourer *per diem*) if they doe
 worke all the yeere, or ratable for the time of
 their worke, as by this example it may appeere.

Three

Three workmen and their labourer, being allowed the wages of iii.s. 8, d. doo garbell six bags of pepper, for the which your dutie is xii. s. & your cleer gaines 8, s. 4, d. by the day, the which in the week, your charges defaultked is, But these four being allowed 8, pence vpon the bagge, will garbell eight bags by the day, for the which they shall receiue v.s. 4 pence, and your due therby is cleer gains 10. s. 8 d. the which in the week your charges defaultked is, thre pound 4. s. and so your gaine is more in the week, by 14. s. then it was before

Thus it appeereth that your workmen shall multiplie your gaine, and better their wages, viz: to euery workman six pence, and to the labourer two pence by the daye, more than they before receiued, so that the labourer shall haue x. d. & the workmen 18, d. a peece, by the day.

Also that it may appeere to you, that the gain growing heerby ariseth not to so much by your allowing of this rate, for, in this allowance of 8 pence vpon the bag of pepper, ariseth but to 4 pence more, then was paide for working of the same at xii. d. the day, as that it must be performed by our dilligence and sore labor, wherein it may bee you will demand of vsy why wee should not accomplish that labour for you, vpon that wages of twelue pence the day, as we would and offer to doo, if the rate of viii. pence

vpon the bagge were allowed vnto vs.

Thervnto our answer is, that the first & chiefest fault is in your selfe, for that when som store of worke is in hand, you doo appoint vs (your workemen) in suche companies, that beeing some of vs placed where a monthes worke is, will lengthen and make the same six weekes, by reason, that they knowe that the workes of the rest of the companies by you appointed, will so soone bee doone, that they shall haue no businesse therein, and heereby some doo work, and some do play, & diuers other further mischiefs doo arise, the which matter must be redressed in forme heereafter expressed, with your fauorable assent or otherwise by some further authoritie.

The second fault is, that some of these companies so by you appointed, by imbecillitie can doo no better, and oftentimes you doo ioyne with vs new commers, whose workes are caste vpon the others necks, and the last and cheefest cause is for that men of iudgement and skil, can not haue such tooles, as they in truth ought to haue for expedition, the which they will provide, if accord be made as is decent.

And forsomuch as these mischeefes & faultes haue produced other inconueniences, as well to you as to vs, viz: for that your selfe is thereby growne into disfauour with diuers marchantes and grocers, and for your ease or fantasie, you giue out hard words against vs, whome neuertheless

thelesse you doo imploye, Whereby also often times wee are grugged at and disdained, the which we as not looking to the ground of these imperfections, whereby to seeke for better remedie, thinking our selues abused, returne the same againe.

For the bettering and auoiding of which inconueniences, wee haue agreed amongst our selues, (if you shall please to yeeld to the sayde rate required) howe to liue by our worke, in loue and concorde together, and by what companies, and in what sorte. Whereby not onelie these discordes maye bee dissolued, but your gaine shall bee perfourmed to the vttermoste, and your selfe quieted; to our good reporte, and your owne profite, and for the commoditie of all those whose businesse wee shall take in hand.

Our agreement beeing nine workemen with eight Labourers nowe imployed, whose number are not to be increased, will handle all the businesse as is declared in this manner following.



The nine Workmen.

Horton.
Hambleton.
Huxley.

Nutting.
Neale.
Wright.

Boomer.
Freeman.
Denstare.

The eight Labourers.

Archer.
Warner.
Phillips.
Aire.

Harrison.
Chadwicke.
Smith.
Morris.

If the worke shal lie in one place, then thus.

Horton.	Boomer.
Huxley.	Neale.
Hambleton.	wright.
Freeman.	Nutting
Denstare.	Archer.

If the worke fall out in two places, then these shall worke.

Horton.
Huxley.
Nutting.
wright.
Boomer.

Neale.
Hableto
Deshire.
Freema.
Archer.

If in three places, then thus.

Huxley.
Horton.
Nutting.
Harrison.

Hambleton.
Wright.
Boomer.
Archer.

Neale.
Denshire.
Freeman.
Aire.

If the worke shal lie in foure places, then thus.

Horton.
Huxley.
Nutting.
Harrison.

Wright.
Hambleton.
Boomer.
Aire.

Neale.
Warner.
Smith.
Aire.

Freeman.
Denshire.
Chadwicke.
Phillips.

Our agreement further is, that the rate wee require being allowed, the ouerplus of the money leuied by the saide rate, more then twelue pence the day, by anye companies that labour, shall be equallye deuided amongst them that labour not.

Our agreement further is, that if the workemen in one place may be dispatched by three or foure, or fewer, that then those that shall work, to be elected by consent of all the rest, who shall giue an account to the rest, of their worke, and value thereof.

Also we agree that one man shall bee named and appointed by vs of our said companie, not onely to trauell and to see howe and where our worke shall fall out, but also we agree that euery of the said companies which shall be dispersed, shal be placed and appointed to their work, by the said person so to be nominated amongst vs, who shall ouersee our workes in all places.

Item, we agree that a booke shall bee made and kept by him, in the which the somme and particulers of our worke shall be set downe, as well for the preseruatiō of your dutie, as for many necessarie causes to our selues apperteyning about our owne gaine.

Item, we agree euery morning in the time of worke, to repaire to your house, for your direction notwithstanding, and to informe you of the premises; the which if you can aduise to better, or shall discern any fault, then to giue di.

directions accordinglie.

The which matters and agreements considered, it will plainelie appeere, that the same tendeth not to our owne gaine so much, as to the credit of the office, our quiet, and your great auaille. And for prooffe also heereof if need shall be, we can and will produce a certificat, request, and petition of the best & expertest marchants, and Grocers in London, testifieng and desiring that the same may so proceed, for diuers reasons by them vsed, not to be reiected, they finding themselves agreed, and do surmise;

- 1 Firste, that by reason of our small wages many of vs doo better the same, by imbezelling of their commodities.
- 2 Item, That we doo prolong our work, vppon purpose to be alwaies occupied, and therby doo trouble their houses longer then reason, to greue them and to annoy their affaires.
- 3 Item, That there is no overseer in that worke, so that the Grocers affirme, that many things are badlie handled, and the marchantes doo impute it to vs, but the Grocers doo alledge that we are bribed, to amende our small wages.

Therefore, and to auoid all surmises by marchants and Grocers, wee haue further thought it good, to accept it by an oath from the Lorde maior, if these our requests be allowed and confirmed by authoritie. And the rather, not only to shew our true and plaine meaning in your affaires, but cheeflie to draw from you all suspiti-

on, and obiections, which you for want thereof may in any wise conceine against these our said requests howsoever. And vpon the saide oath taken, wee require to haue in our seuerall bonds, to you made, for our true and good dealing, it being sufficient to passe our oathes in this behalf, without any bond or other writing.

The Oath we meane to take.

You shall sweare that you shall well and honestlie behaue your selfe in the office and action of Garbellling; within the Cittie of London, without stealing, imbeazelling, or vnlawfullle, or vnhonestlie conueieng away any part of such spices as are lesse to your charges, in any Marchants house, or elsewhere.

You shall as much as in you shall lie, garbell and cense all manner of spices, drugs, and marchandize iustlie, trulie, and indifferently, according to your skill and iudgement, without respect of any person or persons whosoever.

And in these & in al other things, that to the office of garbellling apperteineth, during [the time of your worke, you shall well and truelie behaue your selfe, so God shall helpe you.

Furthermore our conclusion and request is, that you may be pleased to yeeld to our said desires: and that if heerevnto you can object any thing to the contrarie, it may also please you, to

set downe in writing, and that with speed, your
 said obiections, to the end that we may answer
 the same: otherwise wee trust you will pardon
 vs, if wee doo sue for the censure of the Lorde
 Mayor to be giuen in our saide requestes, it be-
 ing more conuenient to allowe of the saide rates,
 then either to reteine six men to worke, & three
 Labourers at a certeine fee by the yeere, and to
 bind them to execute all the saide worke, or o-
 therwise to allowe xviii. pence by the daye, for
 euery daies worke to the workemen, the rather,
 for that the rest will not bee dismissed, it beeing
 their exercise, nor they will not willinglye sub-
 iect themselues to be appointed to anye places
 of worke, otherwise then by their owne accord
 and assent, as before is described, and as they
 haue agreed vppon, to the which agremente,
 they doo subscribe their names, and doo require
 to haue it ratified and confirmed by your wor-
 ship, to whome the office apperteineth as wee
 thinke. In witnesse whereof, wee haue caused
 this to bee made, and by vs vnder written the
 xiiii. day of October, in Anno. 1590.

Subscribed.

Thomas Horton, gro.	John Freeman, grocer.
John Neale.	William Hambleto, gr.
Thomas wright.	Richard Huxsley.
John Nutting.	John Boomer.
Robert Warner, grocer.	John Harrison, grocer.
John Deuonshire, Grocer.	

Hereinseth the Actes of Common Councell
before remembred, made in Anno viii. of
King Henry the eight: and in Anno the se-
conde of King Edward the sixt, concerning
the Garbelling of spices, drugges, and Mar-
chandize, in London.

*Commune Consilium tenet. apud Guildhall Civitatis
London, vicesimo septimo, die Februarii, An-
Regni Regis Henrici Octavi, xviii.*

in presentia.
Thome Seymer, Mil. Maioris,
Iohannis Baker, Recordatarij,
Guilhelmo Butler,
Thome Exmew,
Iohannis mande, Millis,
Thome Bauldry,
Iohannis Allin,
Jacobi Spencer,
Michaelis English,
Iohannis Rudstone,
Radulphi Deder,
Iohannis Hardy,
Christophori Ascue,
Henrici Dacres,

Stephani Peacock, & Vicecomites
Nicholai Lambert, Sciuit. eiusd. &c.



AT this Common counsell the Garbeller of spices exhibited a bill, concerning the garbelling of certain spices, & other things which then & there was openly red and well understood, and therevpon agreed and granted, that it shoulde bee entered of recorde as it is, and so to bee continued, adding therewith this cause of proviso.

Provided alwaies that all such bagges of pepper being of the waight of two C. or aboute, that ought to be garbelled, and beeing marked with the marke of the hand of Antwerpe, vpon the opening thereof, by the garbeller or his deputie, be found well and truly garbelled, and no refuse or garbel in effect therein found, aboute the waight of one pound and a halfe; that then and so often the saide garbeller or his deputie, shall nothing aske or require, by reason of his said office, of the owner of any of the said bags, for opening of the same. And if any thing bee misordered by the said Garbeller or his deputy, by reason of any partialitie, or otherwise in executing of the saide office: that then the reformation thereof, and also the penalties to be laid vpon the garbeller or his deputie, to be doone from time to time, by the good discretions of the maior and Aldermen for the time being, &c.

The garbeller or his deputie to be punished for not performing their duty.

To the right Honorable Lord, the Lord Mayor of this
Cittie of London, and the Worshipfull Aldermen,
his brethren, and to the discrete commons, of this
present Common counsell assembled.



In full humble wise sheweth yn
to your good Lordship and ma-
sterships, your Suppliant & Ci-
tizen Robert Cooper garbeller.
That whereas by Act of Com-
mon counsell, holden the xvii.

day of September, in the 4. yeere of the raigne
of our most dread Soueraigne Lord that now
is, K. Henry the eight, it was enacted, That all
manner of spices, drugges, and other marchan-
dize, after that time to be brought and conuey-
ed from the parts of Flaunders, into this realme
of Englande, marked with the marke of Ant-
werp, or Brudges, called the right hand, should
not by the Garbeller be garbelled heere; forso-
much as it was then supposed, that all manner
of spices, drugs, and other marchandize, that
did bring the saide marke verie trulie garbelled
and clenled: by colour whereof, diuers & sun-
dry marchants, sithence that time hitherto, haue
vsed to bring and conuey, and yet dailey doo,
from the said parts into this Realme and Cittie
of London, great substance of spices, drugges,
and other marchandize, bearing the said mark
of the hand, and the same heere put to sale, with
spices,

spices, drugs, & marchandise, notwithstanding
the said marking, being heere found full of dust,
filthes, filthes, and other garbell not onely to
the great deceit and losse of the Kinges liege
people, of all degrees, eating and vsing the same
in meates and drinke, and otherwise, and be-
sides that manie great complaintes, rumors,
and exclamations, haue therevpon ensued, by a
grea number of persones which haue founde
themselues agterued in that behalfe. Where-
fore it hath pleased my L. Maior and my masters,
his Brethren, knowing the kings most high ple-
sure in that behalfe, at a court of Aldermen, to
admit & authorise your said supplicant vnto the
said office of garbelling, giving him in com-
mandment to garbel and cleanse al manner of spi-
ces, drugs, and marchandise, which ought to be
garbelled, as well those that be marked with the
said marke of the right hand, as all other vnamar-
ked or otherwise marked, according to which
authoritie and commandment, your said supp.
and officer hath taken vpon him to garbel and
hath garbelled among other, all such diuers &
fundry spices, drugs, & other marchandise mar-
ked with the said marke of the right hand, and
found in them great quantities of dust, filch, and
garbell, which he hath heer in Guildhal redy to
be shewed. Pleaseth it herfore your good L. and
masterships, the said deceipts and other the pre-
uities tendetlyn considered, to direct, order, and
establish, weve at this Common council, &

by the authority of the same, that your said sup-
pliant and Garbeller, and all other succeeding
in that roome, within this Citie, may and shal
have all power and authoritie from henceforth
chuelie, truelye, and indifferenlie, from time
to time, to garbell and cleane all manner of spi-
ces, drugs, and other marchandize, the parti-
cular names whereof heereafter ensue, as well
such, and as many of them as bee marked with
the marke of the said hande, as all other being
otherwise marked or vnmaked. That is to say,

Pepper, Ginger, Cloves, Mace, Nutmeggs,
Wanefad, Carduall, Cloves, Small, Cinnamon,
Long pepper, Spigard, Graine, Cloveshild
seeds, Anniseeds, Frankincense, Senle, Cassia
Fistule, Almunde, Morissines, Cardes, Coli-
candised, Berberies, Dates, Risy, Mastiche,
Turmerick, Gum, Sassafras, Orchall, and
Lymon.

And moreover to enact and stablishe that no
marchant or marchants, Freeman, or sonner,
inhabiting within this Citie or suburbs of the
same, nor any marchant stranger, from hence-
forth, take vpon him or them, nor any other
for them, or in their names, or in the name of
any of them, to utter or sell, ingroce or reuyle,
within this Citie of London, any manner spi-
ces, drugs, or other marchandize aforesaid,
before that it bee garbelled, tried, and made
cleane, by the saide garbeller or his depu-
tye.

deputies, for the time being, and sealed with the
scale of the said office, as of olde time accustomed,
whereby it shall or may euidentlie appeer
to the buiers thereof, good, cleane, perfect, and
wholesome, as well for mans bodie, as other-
wise to be used, vpon forfeiture of losing of all
such spices, drugs, and other marchandize, so
sould vngabelled, and vnclensed, or to the va-
lue thereof, to the vse of the Comminaltie of the
Cittie, and for euery hundred waight or bags
of spices, drugs, of other marchandize, bought
and sold, contrarie to this ordinance, the seller
and buier thereof, shall forfeit and pay at euery
time that they so offend forty shillings equallie
betweene them to be borne and paid, and the
same money to bee deuided into three partes,
(that is to say) the one part thereof to the vse of
the Mayor and comminaltie of this Cittie. The
second part to the wardens and fellowship of
Grocers, and the thirde parte to the taker, that
first shall take, and seize any such spices, drugs,
or other marchandize bought, or sold, contra-
rie to this ordinance. And moreouer be it ena-
cted and established by the authoritie of this
Common counsell, that it shall be lawfull for
euery person or persons, vpon due prooffe ther-
of made, if any forfeit or forfeitures, as dooth
appeere about rehearsed, for to bee reconcered
againste euery manner of person or persons so
offending by action of debt, and that it shall
not bee lawfull for the partie defendant, in no

wife to wage the lawe, whereby the partie plaintiffe, shall or may lose his sute, how yet no protection allowed in that behalfe.

Provided alwaies in that behalfe, and bee it further enacted, that the Garbeller his deputie and deputies for the time being, shall take, beate, and carrie awaye, and towards him or them to retaine all manner of garbell and garbels, as dust, fusses, and other filth, that bee or they at any time hereafter shall happen to garbell, trie and cleanse, out of all and every manner drugs and other merchandize, to the intent and purpose, that no person shall estoones put, mixe, or intermeddle the said garbell into or with any manner of spices, drugs, or other merchandize, in avoiding and chiewing the great slander and rebukes, that by occasion of such intermeddling might growe and redound vnto your saide officer, his deputie or deputies, beeing thereof guiltlesse and innocen. And that the owner of all such dust, fusses, and other filth, shall finde and provide a bagge or bagges, to bestowe and put in the same garbells and other filth, and thereof shall take the iuste and true waight, the saide Garbeller his deputie or deputies, shall marke vpon the said bagge or bagges, and then on the owner shall set on his seale, and the sayd bagge or bagges so waied, marked, and sealed, the said Garbeller his deputie or deputies, for the time being, shall immediatlie at the costes of the saide owner, carrie and conuey to the Guild-

Guildhall in London, there to remaine in sure keeping, vnder the keyes of the saide Garbeller and of the controller of the chamber of London, vnto suche time as the owner of euerye such garbell and garbells, shall make and deliuer vnto one of the said two officers, or to their deputies a bill obligatorie; wherein they shall stand bounde vnto the chamberlaine of London for the time being in such somme of monie as by one of the said two officers shall be thought good and reasonable; that the same owner shall conuey, or cause to bee conueyed the saide garbell and garbells vnto the partes of beyond the seas, by a certaine daye to bee limited; by the saide two officers or one of them, and that the owner thercof shall pay for househoome and keeping of euery such bagge, one halfe pennie euery weeke, as longe and by all the time that hee shall suffer any such bagge to lie and remaine.

Provided also that if the owner or owners of anye such bagge or bagges of garbell, suffer the same to be and continue in the saide Guildhall, ouer and aboue the space of nine moneths, that then the said bagge or bagges with the garbell to be and remaine there still as goodes forfeited and confiscate to the vse of the communitie of the Cittie of London, And that the Maior of the same cittie for the time being within a moneth then next ensuing shal appoint and provide for the sure conueieng thereof vnto the partes of beyond the seas, ther to be sold to

the most advantage and the money comminge
of the sale to be delivered to the chamberlaine
of London for the time being, to the use of the
common weale of the said Cittie, and all suche
garbell, dust, fustles, and other filth, which is tri-
ed and censured as is aforesaid, and being of no
value nor substance, shall bee conueied into
Cheape, or into some other convenient place,
within this Cittie at the pleasure and command-
ment of the Mayor, for the time being, and
there to be openly burnt in the sight of the peo-
ple, so that they maye well see and perceiue the
good order and iustice truelie executed in that
behalf.

The Rates and prises what the garbeller shall take for
garbelling all manner of Spices, and other things
that ought to be garbelled, rated, and priced, the
xiii. of August, Anno 15. 2. 6. by the ordinance of
the grocers in london, and the sociates, as hereaf-
ter dooth ensue.

§ The rate of the	§ The taxation of
§ Maistrates.	§ the garbeller.
Pepper from by south the C. 6. d.	xii. d.
Pepper and Ginger with the	
marke of Antwerp or Brud-	
ges, if it need to bee garbled	4. d. 6. d.
the C.	
Cloues not cleane that need to	
be picked by hand, the pound is	2. d.

Maces

The two of the	12 d	The extraction of	12 d
Maisfrater	12 d	the garbeller	12 d
Mais not garbled the C	12 d	12 d	12 d
Wormseed the li	12 d	12 d	12 d
Nutmegs the hundred	12 d	12 d	12 d
Gallingall the C	12 d	12 d	12 d
Setwall the C	12 d	12 d	12 d
Synamon the C	16 d	12 d	12 d
Long pepper the C	16 d	12 d	12 d
Spignard the C	12 d	12 d	12 d
Graines the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Almonds the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Ryse the C	4 d	12 d	12 d
Anniscedes the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Commiseed the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Gawles the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Morewax the C	4 d	12 d	12 d
Senie the C	3 s 4 d	12 d	12 d
Cassia fistula the C	12 d	12 d	12 d
Colianders seed the C	5 d	12 d	12 d
Gum arabick the C	4 d	12 d	12 d
Bayberies the C	3 d	12 d	12 d
Dates the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Turmeric the C	4 d	12 d	12 d
Orchall the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Litmus the C	3 d	12 d	12 d
Mastick the C	6 d	12 d	12 d
Frankensence the C	12 d	12 d	12 d
Orris the C	8 d	12 d	12 d
Scaves acre the C	6 d	12 d	12 d

K 4 But

But all manner of wares wet with water, for
ten or twelfe yerres in there is much labour, and
long time; that then, as the marchant and the
officer can agree for the dooing thereof, and if
they cannot agree, that then the wardens of the
Grocers for the time being, to be indifferent
iudges betweene them.

Commune Consilium tenet, apud Guildhall Civitatis

London, desimo septimo, die Iudij, Almanig

Regni Edwardi Sexti, secundus

Curam.

Johanne Gresham, Mil. Maioris.

Roberto Brooke, Recorदारि

Randolpho Warren,

Gulielmo Iaxton, Millis.

Martino Bomes.

Johanne Tolib,

Johanne Wilford,

Andrea Ind.

Georgio Barne.

Gulielmo Locke.

Augustino Hinde,

Richardo Turke.

Henriccho goodier,

Johanne Iyon.

Johanne ambers,

Gulielmo garret,

Thome White & Vicecomites

Roberto Chartsey, Sicut, eiusd.

Ac maiore parte Comunitatis, Comitibus

consilii civitatis predict. existente.

Here by the Acte of Common
counsell, holden in the Cham-
ber of the Guildhall of the citie
of London, the xx. of Fe-
bruary 1516. in the xviii. yere
of the reigne of our late Souer-
aigne Kinge, of most worthy memoire Kinge
Henry the eight, before Sir Thomas Seimer
Bulight, then Lord Mayor of the said citie; and
the Aldermen of the same; in this amongst o-
ther things ordeined & established, by the said L.
Mayor & Aldermen & Councillors, in the same com-
mon counsell then assembled; and by the authority
into the same, that all kindes of series of spices,
drugges, and marchandise speciallie recited &
expressed in the said Acte, within the same citie
wherfore they were gabelled; as well those
that are marked with the right hande of Am-
werp, Bruges, and Flaens, as all other marked
or unmarked, for all other which of right ought
and of long tyme then past, according to good
and ancient custome and ordinaunces; or discrip-
tione made and provided; had bene accusto-
med to be gabelled within the said Citie; and
the liberties thereof, by the common gabeller
of spices, of the same citie, wherunto his follice
appointed by the Lord Mayor of the said Citie,
for the tyme being, before that the same spi-
ces, drugges, and marchandise, or any partcell
thereof, were or should be put to sale, uttered,

or sold, and that the garbell, suffer, and distress, by garbelling and distressing out of the said spices, drugs, wares, and merchandize, should be brought and conveyed by the same garbellers to the Guildhall afore said, to be from thence conveyed and transported within a certeine tyme limited, by the said Act of Common counsell, made the xii day of February, in the said viii. yeere of the said late king, into the partes beyond the seas, and otherwise be disposed vpon certeine paines and penalties, in the same Act mentioned and expressed, as by the same Act it doth and may more fullie appeer vpon records. By the which said act of common counsell, or yet by any other like act concerning the garbelling and distressing of the said spices, drugs, & merchandize, hitherto made and provided, there is not any certein time limited or appointed, within which the owners and possessors of such spices, drugs, and merchandize, hitherto made and provided, there is not anye certeine time limited or appointed, within which the owners & possessors of such spices, drugs, and merchandize, keeping the same longer in their custody and possession, doe many times by covert, secret, and fraudulent waies and means, utter and sell the same, before than it bee seene, fetched, garbelled or distressed by the said common garbeller, or his deputy or deputies, to the no litle losse, damage, and hurt, of all the buyers and occupiers thereof, for remedie

maner, shall forfeit and pay or cause to be paid, for every bag, chest, vessel, remnant, and parcell, of all the said spices, drugs, and marchandise, except before excepted, so being vngarbled, and kept by the space of foure monethes, xxvi. s. 8. d. in the name of a paine.

And further be it enacted by the authoritie aforesaid, that if any chest, vessel, bagge, parcel or remnant of Almonds, Ruse, and Dates, be now or hereafter shall be in forme aforesaid, kept, or reserved, by the owner or owners, keeper or keepers of the same, not garbled & cleared, by the said garbeller his lawfull deputie or deputies, within halfe a year next after the bringing of the same Almonds, Ruse and Dates, into the said Citie or liberties thereof: That then every such person & persons shall forfeit and paie for every such chest, vessel, and bagge, remnant, and parcell of Almonds, Ruse, and Dates so kept vngarbled, other then such as shall be kept for his or their owne necessary use and expences, within their owne household, contrary to the tenor and effect of this present act and ordinances, xxvi. s. 8. d. in the name of a paine.

Provided alwaies, and bee it further enacted by the authoritie aforesaid, that this present act nor any thing therein contained do not in any wise stretch or extend, to the hurt, damage, or greefe of any person or persones, for not garbelling or cleansing, of any of the said lands

of spices, drugs, and marchandise, which now
are and do remaine in the custodie, and posses-
sion of any person or persons, of the said Citty
or the liberties of the same, within the severall
times before limited and appointed, for the
same, so alwaies that all and every such person
and persons, now having as is aforesaid, any of
the said sortes of spices, drugges, and marchan-
dize, within the said citty, or the liberties ther-
of, doo cause the same, and every part and par-
cell thereof (excepte as is before excepted) to
be garbelled and clenched by the said Common
garbeller or his sufficient deputie or deputies,
within foure monthes now next ensuing, with-
out fraud or further delay.

Provided also, and bee it enacted by the au-
thoritie aforesaid, that if any person or persons
at any time or times hereafter, doo vnder or sell
of cause to be sold, or put to sale, or convey out
of the said citty, any bag, chest, vessel, parcell,
or remnant, of the said spices, drugges, or mar-
chandize, being of the cleere value of x. pound,
and upwards, before they or any of them shall
be garbled, and sealed by the common garbel-
ler, or by his deputie or deputies, as is afore-
said, contrary to the tenor, true meaning, and
effect of this present act, or of the like former
act, That then every such offender, and offen-
ders, shall forfeit for every such bag, chest, ves-
sell, parcell, and remnant, of the spices, drugs,
and Marchandize, ten pound sterling, and not
about,

above, and for euery bagge, cheft, vefsell, par-
cell, or remaners of spices, drugges, and Mar-
chandize, being vnder the value of ten pound,
to forsaite such paine and penaltie for the same,
as is contayned in the saide former Act, mention-
ned or contayned, to the contrarye notwithstanding.

And further be it ordained, and enacted, by
the said authoritie, That if any person or per-
sons, at any time hereafter, do mingle or mix,
or intermeddle in any manner of kind, part or par-
cell of garbell or garbels of the spices, drugges,
or Marchandize aforesaid, to the cleane spices,
drugs, or marchandize, after that the said spi-
ces, drugs, or marchandize, or any of them, haue
been colleted and garbelled by the common
garbeller, or by his deputie or deputies, to the
intents decreed any of the kinges liedge peo-
ple therewith, that then every such offender, &
offenders, shall clerelicke lose and forfeit, all such
spices, drugges, and marchandise, so mixed or
mingled, and forty shillings more, for euery
such offence, to the uses and intents hereunder
expressed.

Provided also and be it enacted by the au-
thoritie aforesaid, That if anye manner of person
or persons, at any time hereafter, doe conuey
or bring, or cause to bee conueyed or to bee
brought, to the said Citie or the liberties ther-
of, any manner of garbell or garbels, of anye of
the said spices, drugges, or Marchandise, by it
selfe,

take, from any one of the parties aforesaid the sole,
to the licence of most of all the time within the
fourth Circle or liberties thereof, That all of every
person as persons for offending, shall forfeit and
lose all the said garbell and garbels, and also ten
pound sterling for every time so offending and to
be employed and decided as hereafter shall be
vouchsafed in brief Bonifacio is ordered by A

Provided also and be it enacted, that all and every the forfeitures, paines and penalties, of w^{ch} offence, drugges, and merchandizes of the forfeiture of money above mentioned, and exp^{re}ssed within this severall Act, or within the said former Act, before, in and by this present Act, or within the said former Act before pre- scribed or confirmed, shall at all times from hence forthward be recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information to be commenced within any of our said Sovereign Lord the Kings Counties within the said City of London, in the name of the Chamberlaine of the same City of London for the time being, whereof none offence or waiver of law shall be admitted, and shall be employed, distributed and behalved, as hereafter is and shall be appointed and declared, That is to say, the one moiety or halfe dole of every such paine, penaltie, and forfeiture, to be to the use of the maker and presenter of the offender and offenders, and the other moiety to be and remaine to the use of the poore, for the time being, maintained and relieved in the way

Hospitall in West-smithfielde in the suburbs of the said citie. And also provided, and he it enacted, that it shalbe lawfull at all times hereafter, to and for the Lord Maior and aldermen of the said citie for the time being to cause by their discretions, all such garbell of the said spices, drugs and marchandize as at anie time hereafter shall be brought vnto the Guild-hall aforesaid, according to the tenor, forme, and effect of the said former act made in the 18. yeare of the raigne of our said late King, which may be lawfullie and conueniently conueied and put to a good and reasonable vse and occupation to be retained, vnto, solde, and spent by himselfe, within the said citie, and elsewhere within the realme of England, anie thing within the same former act, or anie other act or ordinance mentioned or contained in the contrarie in aniewise notwithstanding.

And also be enacted and ordained by the auctoritie aforesaid, that in case anie person or persons at anie time hereafter, doe, or shal refuse or deny trulie to content or pay to the said garbeller for the time being, or to his sufficient deputies or deputies, by the lawes and ordinances aforesaid remembred shall be due and belong, as it hath beene accustomed for the garbelling and sealing of anie of the said spices, drugs, and marchandize: vwhen, and as soon as the same shall be so garbelled & sealed: that then it shalbe lawfull for the said Garbeller, his deputie, or deputies,

M

ties,

ties, immediate to plucke of and to take away every such seale, so by him or them before put to the said spices, drugs, and merchandize, & that then and thenceforth the said spices, drugs, and merchandize, and every parcel thereof, shall be taken, deemed, and adjudged, as not garbelled; censed or sealed; but remaine and stande vnder the danger and perillie aboute in this present act mentioned and expressed; any thing in the same act comprised to the contrary notwithstanding. And these be the true contents

It is provided also, and bee it enacted by the au-
thoritie aforesaid, that if at any time hereafter,
any of the said spices, drugs, wares, or marchand-
ise, which ought to be garbelled and clenased
as is aforesaid, be found so full of stones, so wet
with water, rotten, bruised, worme eaten, or o-
therwise full of filthines and vncleane, that they
cannot be garbled and clenased, as is aforesaid,
in such reasonable and convenient time and
space as other drugs, spices, and marchandise of
like kinds and sortes for the most part may bee,
That then it shall be in the election of the said
Garbeller his deputie or deputies, for the time
being, to haue the fee therefore vsed and accu-
stomed, or else to haue and take for euery such
person as shall worke about euery such Garbel-
ling, for euery whole daies worke, after the rate
of viii d. by the daie.

*The oath of the common
Garbeller.*

You shall sweare that you shall well and lawfullie behaue you in the office of Garbeller, within the citie of London, without any fauor or partialitie shewing to anie person, taking reasonable for your labour.

And all the powder or order within the Bales, and of marchandize by you to be garbled, wholelie yee shall bringe or deliver to the Chamberlaine of this Citie, for the time being, to the intent that the said powder or order after that, shall not be mingled in any such marchandize.

And after that you haue garbled any bale or marchandize, you shall marke and signe the same bale by you garbled, with a marke to the intent that the Common weigher may haue knowledge thereof. And in this and in all other thinges, that to the office of Garbeller appertaineth, you shall well and truelie behaue your selfe, as God you helpe.

FINIS.



719
An Appendix declaring, that for so much as the
request of the authors, doe lie dispersed in
this booke, and least it should seeme to ear-
ny abroad, an unseuerable mention of mat-
ters therein: therefore they, for a careful re-
fining thereof, haue collected as readie (for
such Commissioners as may be appointed,
or if any such hap to be) for the due exami-
nation of the necessity of their said por-
tion, the contents of the said booke, and the
briefe of such things, as they do sue to haue
reformed, and to haue passed to an Acte of
Common counsell in London, the rather,
for that the sa presence may beare the better
credit, by a conference with such commis-
sion, whereby the same Art of Garbellling,
may be inaued with the life of some lawer,
for the benefit of the Common wealth.

The briefe Contents of the Booke.



First, they shew that King
Henry the sixt did give the of-
fice of garbellling of spices, to
the Lord Mayor and Commi-
naltie of London for ever, to
the end that the spices brought
in.

into this realme, should bee made cleane; and the corrupt to bee deuied from the good, for the healtie and good of the subiectes of this Realme.

That therevpon the Marchantes owners of such spices, & the Grocers retaylors, of the same did at a meeting for that purpose, concord and agree vpon the maner of cleansing of such spices, and also of the sorts that euery kind of such spice should be deuied and made into.

That by some of this agreement, certaine Actes were made by the said Lorde Mayor and Communitie, whereby the Marchants are inioyned not to sell any spice, before the same be garbelled: and the Retaylors Grocers are inioyned, not to alter nor mixe the said sortes of spices, so made and garbelled, vpon paine of forfeiture of the said spices.

*The ground of the
Abuses.*



Orsomuch as in the saide actes, the saide maner of garbling of the saide spice, so then agreed vpon, noe the saide sortes like wile, that the saide spices should be deuied and made into, were not expresse in the saide Actes, nor sufficientlie recorded in any court, Therefore the Garbeller in the Lorde Mayor, garbelled the saide spi-

tes as it pleaseth him : and the retaylors grocers
by force of the said actes, are inforced to put the
same to sale in such manner, as the said Garbel-
lers doo handle them, and in such sort :
That his maicstie is deceived in the goodnes
and price of the said spice, to a great value in the
yeere.

The marchant and owners before their faces
are defrauded and deluded, with their owne
goods.

The Retaylors are discredited, and their spice
in markets and faires are made forfeit by reason
of their corruption, and are in the said book at
large expressed.

The price is nothing abated.
And all the people are deceived.

*The conclusion of the booke, and the matters therein
required, to be enacted and to be for ever observed,
if it shall be so thought requisite by the Commit-
tees appointed.*



That the ancient manner of gar-
belling of spices before agreed
vpon, may be observed, and all
others to be reiected.

That the said ancient deuifi-
ons of such spices, may bee also
kept, and the same so denided, to bee seuerallie
put vp.

That none doo worke but men of skill, in
that

that office, as is in the ninth Chapter of the said booke set forth, and the same persons to be nominated and elected, by the companie of Grocers, out of the decaied brethren of that companie, as often as such place shall fall void, with one of that companie, to suruey the orderlie putting vp, of the saide deuisions with theyr marks.

That the rates for the common garbeller bee reexamined, and made equall to his paine.

That the orders deuised and set forth, by the workemen in that office, and in the booke expressed, may be examined, and so much thereof allowed them, as tendeth for the better preservation of the said goods, and their concord in working in marchants houses.

